Name Joan Fellowes Pettit Graduation year 19 41

416-651-6216

Today's date: August 12 1991 interview by John Byl

JB: Would it be okay if I asked you some questions....?

JFP: Okay...., though I do not know if know of anything unusual other than meeting friends for life, and things like that.

I. Why did you choose to study at MES?

At that time it was the only physical education place, because after 42 or 43 it became part of the university of toronto.

II. What alternatives did you consider?

McGill was to far away. OCE did not offer nearly as complete a programme.

III. What are some of your fondest memories of being a student at MES?

I lived out, 3/4 of them lived "in." And there were about 10 of us who didn't. We got a different aspect really. People in the residence had to be very ladylike, etc. etc. To some extent this was in the school curriculum. There was one woman who was very particular about the way things were done. Mrs. Marriott. We all had to wear hats to school, but do not remember gloves. This was on the street-car. Travelling anywhere outside you had to wear hats, but not once inside the school.

There was a very, very nice secretary, Charlotte Layton. She was a wonderful lady. She died very recently. She would have really filled you in.

IV. What are some of your worst memories of being a student at MES?

No I would not say so.

V. With respect to your course work what are some of your fondest memories?

You probably heard someone say about Dorothy Jackson, she was kind of a reble in her way. She did things which were not approved of in her general behaviour outside of her teaching. She was strict. But I do not know how she carrried that out in her own, you know, but I do not think that is something that should be brought up since she did wonderful work. Hobday was doing dance. Naylor. Raymer did a lot of physiology. We took anatomy and physiology at

the university. They were tough courses. Our PE was more like an extension of the university at that time.

VI. With respect to your course work what are some of your worst memories?

VII. What do you remember about the school's principal and board?

Mrs. Somers was a remarkable person. She wasn't young. At least to us she did not seem young. I would think at least fifties. She kept very update on the profession of physical education. I don't really recall the involvment of the Eatons. Margaret was given the name becaue it used to be a school of expression. That's how it originally came out. They were not really involved in my time.

VIII. How do you think most student's paid for their education at MES [summer jobs, parents paid....]?

Parents paid. Most of them, 3/4 came from from private schools, myself no. I went to public school in Toronto and went on from there. They tended to come from established families.

IX. In what ways have you kept in touch with alumnae of MES?

I have kept in touch with the class of 41. I see them at reunions and a few of them other times. The ones out west I have seen two or three times, and I see a couple that are leaving in the vicinty. Other years, not really.

X. What kind of work/volunteer activities did you do as a result of your education at MES?

I worked at the Y in Kingston and then joined the army and did administration there. When I went to England I set up recreation for them. I came back after the war and started a family and then I never went back into it because it changes and if you don't keep up with it is no good so I went into another field.

XI. Did you pursue further education following MES? Where? Why?

No

XII. PERSONAL BACKGROUND:

A. Your year of birth: 19 20

B. Your country of birth: Canada

C. Country of mother's birth: England

D. Country of father's birth: Canada

E. When you entered MES what occupations did your parents have?

Mother's occupation: Housewife

Father's occupation: Engineer

F. Where were you living before coming to MES?

City: Toronto

Province: Ontario Country: Canada

G. Which school did you attend prior to entering MES?

Humber Collegiate plus a year's business course

What grade (level) did you complete at this school? 13

Was this a private or public school? public

H. If you married, which year did you first do so: 19 46

Married to: (name)

Occupation of husband when married: in the army

XIII. Would you be interested in receiving a copy of my abstract when I complete my study? yes that would be very nice

1941

July 13, 1991

JB: Is Betty FitzGibbon available?

FG: She passed away in April.... Still kind of shaken up.

JB: Can I ask you some questions?

FG: Not to many. I'll try.

JB: You married her a long time ago?

FG: 46.

JB: Did she teach PE after MES?

FG: She went to university for two years. U. of T. She then took up nursing... She took up nursing after we were married.

JB: Before you were married did she teach PE?

FG: Yea. She taught PT in Sarnia, something to do with the community?

JB: Was she born in Canada?

FG: Born in Brooks Alberta, her parents were Canadians. She taught school in Vancouver Island for awhile.

JB: I wonder why she went all the way to Toronto for MES?

FG: During the war years she joined the army. She was stationed at Oakville. That's where I met her. I was in the army and my sisters were in the army in Oakville.

JB: She went right to school from Brooks?

FG: Yes. Could you call back another time? I am very upset.

Name Roberta (Perky) Hill Graduation year 19 41

Today's date: July 10 1991

I. Why did you choose to study at MES?

My parents chose because I was fond of sports!

II. What alternatives did you consider?

I would have chosen Design but there were no qualified courses in Canadian schools & the U.S.A. was out due to the war.

III. What are some of your fondest memories of being a student at MES?

The people - class mates - dates - teachers (this dedicated group will stay in my memory the longest - I loved the health courses Miss Raymer taught) - the dance courses were exceptional

IV. What are some of your worst memories of being a student at MES?

Practice Teaching

V. With respect to your course work what are some of your fondest memories?

loved the stimulation of a large city + the arts M.E.S. exposed us to. Outside of our courses - Miss Somers went out of her way to suggest areas of design interest to me

VI. With respect to your course work what are some of your worst memories?

Practice Teaching

VII. What do you remember about the school's principal and board?

Wonderful Staff - We were So Lucky

VIII. How do you think most student's paid for their education at MES [summer jobs, parents paid....]?

Parents paid - Summer jobs didn't seem to be "the thing" 50 years ago

IX. In what ways have you kept in touch with alumnae of MES?

None - outside of one class reunion + a few annual X mas cards I have not kept in touch with Phys. Ed.

X. What kind of work/volunteer activities did you do as a result of your education at MES?

A brief volunteer job at a "Y" - but my education prepared me tremendously in bringing up my 3 children - nutrition, sports, school activities, etc. - I married 7 months after graduation - c'est la guerre!

XI. Did you pursue further education following MES? Where? Why?

Took a course in Interior Design - opened my own business + ran it for 15 yrs. retiring in 1986 - this is what I wanted in 1939!

XII. PERSONAL BACKGROUND:

A. Your year of birth: 19_____

B. Your country of birth: Canada

C. Country of mother's birth: "

D. Country of father's birth: "

E. When you entered MES what occupations did your parents have?

Mother's occupation: _____

Father's occupation: _____

F. Where were you living before coming to MES?

City: Charlotte Town

Province: P.E.I. Country: Can.

G. Which school did you attend prior to entering MES?

Mt. Allison School for Girls

What grade (level) did you complete at this school? Matric

Was this a private or public school? Private

H. If you married, which year did you first do so: 1942

Married to: (name) ELKIN

Occupation of husband when married: RCNVR officer

XIII. Would you be interested in receiving a copy of my abstract when I complete my study? YES



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